AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

The present Amendment has been prepared in accordance with a revised format established by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, as permitted in the Pre-OG Notice entitled "Amendments in a Revised Format Now Permitted."

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 24 as follows:

Fig. 8 shows a state wherein a unit block (unit for selecting and driving one row) 601 of the vertical shift register 501 is formed within one pixel region (one cell) 603 together with a one-pixel circuit 602. The one-pixel circuit 602 is shown in ~~Fig. 4~~ Fig. 6. The vertical shift register is represented by a simple circuit made up of a static shift register 604 and transfer gates 605 in order to generate a transfer signal ΦTX, reset signal ΦRES, and row selection signal ΦSEL. The static shift register 604 and transfer gate 605 are driven by a signal from a clock signal line (not shown). The circuit arrangement of the shift register is not limited to this, and the shift register can take any circuit arrangement by various driving methods such as pixel addition and interlaced reading. However, the functional block is formed within one cell 603 together with the pixel circuit 602, like this embodiment, the shift register and the like are arranged within the effective pixel region, and an image pickup element having an effective pixel region on its entire surface is implemented.